

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 093798
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO WHITE HOUSE IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 093798

NODIS

WHITE HOUSE-FOR DR. BRZEZINSKI

FOLLOWING REPEAT CARACAS 4133 ACTION SECSTATE DTD 26 APR

QTE

S E C R E T CARACAS 4133

NODIS

EO 11652 GDS

TAGS: OVIP, VE (MRS CARTER)

SUBJ: POSSIBLE VISIT OF MRS CARTER

REF: STATE 91973

1. IN THE ABSENCE OF PRESIDENT PEREZ AND FOREIGN
MINISTER WHO ARE ON THEIR MIDDLE EASTERN TRIP, I
RAISED POSSIBLE VISIT WITH ACTING PRESIDENT, MINISTER
OF INTERIOR LEPAGE. LEPAGE SAID HE WOULD COMMUNICATE
IMMEDIATELY AND CONFIDENTIALLY WITH PRESIDENT IN THE
MIDDLE EAST, AND LET ME KNOW IN THE NEXT DAY OR TWO.

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HE SAID THAT HE WAS CONFIDENT THAT THE PRESIDENT
WOULD BE DELIGHTED TO RECEIVE MRS. CARTER. (VENEZUELAN
WILL UNDOUBTEDLY SEE THIS VISIT AS A GRACIOUS PRELUDE
TO THE PEREZ STATE VISIT, AND WILL SURELY WISH TO BE
WARM AND RECEPTIVE FOR THEIR PART.)

2. I AM SURE THAT PRESIDENT PEREZ WILL HAVE SEVERAL

SUGGESTIONS FOR ACTIVITIES DURING THE VISIT. WHILE WE WILL NOT BE ABLE TO BEGIN TO PIN DOWN THE SCHEDULE UNTIL HE AND THE FOREIGN MINISTER RETURN MAY 5, THE FOLLOWING ARE OUR SUGGESTIONS WHICH WE BELIEVE WOULD BE ACCEPTABLE TO THE GOV AND HIGHLY FRUITFUL:

A. THURSDAY MORNING, JUNE 8:

- 1) WORKING BREAKFAST WITH FOREIGN MINISTER;
- 2) MEETING WITH PRESIDENT PEREZ;
- 3) LAYING OF WREATH AT SIMON BOLIVAR'S TOMB--A PROTOCOLARY "MUST" FOR VISITING DIGNITARIES;
- 4) CALL ON PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS;
- 5) SPECIAL GUEST AT LUNCHEON HOSTED BY NORTH AMERICAN ASSOCIATION, VENEZUELAN-AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND/OR VENEZUELAN-AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN. THE LARGE AND INFLUENTIAL AMERICAN COLONY WILL BE EXTREMELY ANXIOUS TO SEE MRS. CARTER. A USEFUL DEVICE, AND ONE TRADITIONALLY USED, WOULD BE TO INVITE HER AS SPECIAL GUEST AT A LUNCHEON AND ASK HER TO MAKE A FEW REMARKS TO THE ASSEMBLAGE. IF MRS. CARTER WOULD SPEAK TO THE GROUP, IT WOULD BE A MOST GRACIOUS AND PRODUCTIVE GESTURE.

B. AFTERNOON:

- 1) BRIEFING SESSION WITH DR. RUTH LERNER DE ALMEA, DIRECTOR GENERAL MARISCAL AYACUCHO (GMA) SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM. THIS REMARKABLE PROGRAM IS MASSIVE GOV EFFORT TO EDUCATE PROFESSIONALS AND THOUSANDS ARE GIVEN SHCOLARSHIP EACH YEAR. CURRENTLY THERE ARE ABOUT 7,000 GMA STUDENTS STUDYING OUTSIDE
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OF THE COUNTRY, HALF OF THEM IN THE US AND 4,000 IN VENEZUELA. THIS MAJOR PROGRAM IS OF SPECIAL CONCERN TO VENEZUELAN AND OFFERS A MAJOR OPPORTUNITY FOR US-VENEZUELAN TIES. POSSIBLE USG COOPERATION WITH THE PROGRAM, IN FACT, MAY BE A USEFUL TOPIC FOR THE PEREZ STATE VISIT. MRS. CARTER'S INTEREST IN THE PROGRAM WOULD BE HIGHLY APPRECIATED AND WOULD BE HELPFUL FROM THE US POINT OF VIEW.

- 2) SESSION WITH MEMBERS OF CONGRESSIONAL FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEES. THIS COULD BE DROPPED IF SCHEDULE OTHERWISE CROWDED).

- 3) MRS. PEREZ HAS AS A MAJOR ACTIVITY OF HERS, SPONSORSHIP OF DAY CARE CENTERS FOR POOR CHILDREN, AND WILL UNDOUBTEDLY WISH TO SHOW MRS. CARTER SOME OF THESE ACTIVITIES.

- 4) PRESS CONFERENCE OR TV APPEARANCE. PRESS INTEREST WILL BE

EXTREMELY HIGH; A PRESS CONFERENCE WILL BE VERY EAGERLY PRESSED.

C. EVENING; PRESIDENT PEREZ WILL SURELY HOST A DINNER,
EITHER JUNE 8 OR ON THE FIRST NIGHT, JUNE 7, IF ARRIVAL
TIME MAKES THAT PRACTICAL. WE WOULD HOST A RECEPTION FOR GOV
AND CIVIC DIGNITARIES ON THE OTHER NIGHT.

D. JUNE 9: IF DEPARTURE TIME PERMITS WE COULD SCHEDULE
WORKING BREAKFAST WITH APPROPRIATE PERSON OR GROUP.

3. I WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING INFORMATION ON LODGING
REQUIRMENTS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.
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Message Attributes

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